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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1005

Offered February 23, 2009

Commending the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc.

Patrons—Plum; Senator: Howell

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WHEREAS, the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., was honored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith, Inc., with a prestigious 2009 Best of Reston award; and

WHEREAS, the Best of Reston awards were established to recognize individuals, businesses, and organizations that have demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the Reston community and improving the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, the Links, Inc., is an international, not-for-profit corporation that consists of 12,000 professional women of color; and

WHEREAS, the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., was organized in 1975 to make a meaningful and positive difference to the African-American community in the Reston/Herndon area and the 58 members of the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., volunteer over 3,000 service hours each year; and

WHEREAS, the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., partners with Langston Hughes Middle School's Grace Program to help African-American girls in grades 7 - 8 focus on leadership development and self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, members of the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., also participate in the Annual Langston Hughes Middle School Career Day, tutor at Terraset Elementary School, and conduct college tours; and

WHEREAS, the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., awards annual scholarships to deserving graduating seniors at South Lakes and Herndon High Schools; over the years, the organization has contributed over \$350,000 to minority students; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., also work in the community to provide health-oriented workshops concentrating on minority and women's health issues; and

WHEREAS, the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., members have made a significant difference in the Reston community and provide a model for others to emulate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., on its outstanding service to the residents of Northern Virginia and on its well-deserved honor as a 2009 Best of Reston award recipient; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reston Chapter of the Links, Inc., as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for its efforts on behalf of the community of Reston.